



Winter 2004

## Environmental Update

### Off-Base Cleanup Systems To Be Built

#### Off-base Cleanup in 2004

This year the Air Force will build three permeable reactive barriers (PRBs) off-base to treat contaminants in the shallow groundwater near Kelly. (See PRB Quick Facts Box.)

These off-base systems will complement the continual on-base source cleanup.

The cleanup goal is to bring the shallow groundwater to drinking water standards. It is important to remember that the shallow groundwater is not a drinking water source. San Antonio's drinking water comes from the Edwards Aquifer. A thousand feet of impermeable rock and clay form a barrier between the Edwards Aquifer and the shallow groundwater above.

#### 34th Street PRB

One PRB will be built north of Kelly on 34th Street near Growdon Road. This PRB will be built by digging a trench. It will then be filled with a mixture of sand and iron filings. It will be about 540 feet long, 30 inches wide and 35 feet deep. 34th Street will close during the project. Growdon Road will be reachable by 35th Street and Meniffee. Security will be there after hours and monitoring wells will be built between April and May.

#### Malone Street PRB

The second PRB will be built south of Malone Street on Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) property. It will be constructed by injecting iron filings into the ground to form the PRB. The first section will be about 500 feet long and about 45 feet deep.

The second will be about 1,000 feet long and 45 feet deep. Both sections will run along the UPRR tracks just north of East Kelly.

#### Commercial Street PRB

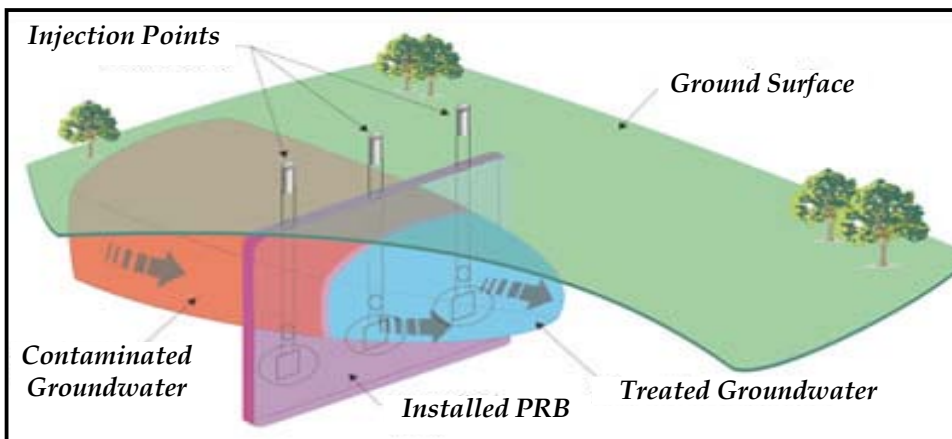
A third PRB will be built on Commercial Street this summer. The Air Force has not finalized plans for this PRB but will keep people in that area informed by mail.

#### Air Monitoring Project

The San Antonio Metropolitan Health District's (SAMHD's) Public Center for Environmental Health (PCEH) will monitor air quality at each PRB site.



*Pre PRB construction on 34th Street*



*A conceptual model of an injected permeable reactive barrier (PRB)*

#### Quick Facts:

**What is a PRB?** A permeable reactive barrier (PRB) is an underground flow-through wall that uses iron filings to treat contaminated groundwater. The iron may be injected or poured into a trench.

**What are the PRBs doing on- and off-base at Kelly?** The PRBs are treating perchloroethylene (PCE) and trichloroethylene (TCE) in the shallow groundwater.

**How did the PCE/TCE get into the shallow groundwater?** PCE and TCE were used at Kelly to repair Air Force planes. They entered the shallow groundwater from past disposal practices, leaks and spills.

# Air Force Real Property Agency Kelly Environmental Cleanup



## Over 1,800 Health Screenings Provided!

The Environmental Health and Wellness Center (EHWC) gives free health screenings and health information to both former Kelly AFB workers, and to people living near Kelly.

So far the center has served 1,834 people in the Kelly area. For an appointment please call (210) 434-0077.



*The EHWC is located at 911 Castroville Road in the Las Palmas Shopping Center.*

## On-base Update

### Former Building 301 & Building 360

Last year, the Air Force built a PRB at former Building 301 and two at Building 360. The Air Force also began work on a slurry wall at Building 360. These systems are treating contaminated shallow groundwater on-base.

The two PRBs have been finished at Building 360. The Air Force will continue to sample shallow groundwater to monitor cleanup progress. Work on the slurry wall at Building 360 will be finished this spring. At that point, the slurry wall will be tested for effectiveness.

Once the PRB at the former Building 301 was completed, it was paved to make a parking lot.



*The Site of the former Building 301*

### Zone 2 and 3 CMS

The Zone 2 and 3 Corrective Measures Study or CMS will be available for public comment this spring. The document will describe the final remedies for the on base soil and shallow groundwater cleanup.

Zone 2 is south of Military Drive and Zone 3 is the industrial area on the southeast side of the former Kelly AFB.

## RAB Welcomes New Members!

The Kelly Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) just elected ten new members. These members will represent the community in the Kelly cleanup.

RAB meetings are held quarterly and the community is always welcome. The meetings help people learn about the Kelly cleanup. People may also share information with each other and with the Air Force. Please come and have your voice heard!

The next Kelly RAB will meet Monday April 26, 2004, at 6:30 p.m. at Kennedy High School. Free Spanish translation is available at all meetings. For more information, please call (210) 925-0956.

### Have questions about the cleanup of Kelly?

#### We've got answers!

If you have questions, please call: (210) 925-0956, or see our Website:

[www.afropa.hq.af.mil/kelly/](http://www.afropa.hq.af.mil/kelly/)

or write us at:

AFRPA/DC-K

143 Billy Mitchell Blvd., Suite 1  
San Antonio, Texas 78226-1816